<u>Current Status – ESSC Project</u>

October 1, 2008

- 1. The building designs are done and the general contractor bid solicitation for the Helena ESSC was advertised on September 28. The Miles City ESSC solicitation will be advertised beginning October 5. Bids will be opened the week of October 20 and 27, respectively.
- 2. The bids contain a number of "bid alternates" to allow the State to make the most effective use of available funds.
- 3. The IT project (actually a number of "subprojects") to relocate the Mitchell Building ITSD data center to the Helena ESSC, and to make use of the facilities, is in the planning stage. Preliminary plans have been drafted detail work on refining the plan, estimating task, and resource identification will proceed in the December/January timeframe.
- 4. Budget continues to be an area of concern. Once the construction bids come in we will know how we sit with regard to the \$14.5 million appropriated. In general, construction costs have been softening, however our emphasis on electrical infrastructure may offset this trend. Only the bid results will determine where we stand for certain. Additional funding for ITSD moving into the ESSC has been proposed.

For additional information please contact Mike Boyer (x3279).